date on the health of the crops, locating areas of ground water potential, identifying wasteland reclaimable for agriculture, providing data on flood risk zones for reducing risks to lives and property, monitoring water levels in reservoirs and giving estimates of snow cover to optimise water use for power and irrigation, etc. Forecasts on potential zones for fishing are helping the fishermen in the coastal areas to increase their catch. The Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development, launched in 1992, mainly using IRS Data, is aimed at generating locale-specific prescriptions for the optimal use of land and water resources for rural development.

Keeping in view the changing global scenario, the Indian Space programme, while meeting the requirements of socio-economic needs, is also making efforts on the commercial front—the agreement with the INTELSAT organisation for lease of transponders on board India's INSAT and with EOSAT company of USA for reception, processing and marketing of India's IRS Data are two such examples.

Application of Space Technology in Agricultural Field

7402. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a possibility of adequate increase in the agricultural production and conversion of barren land into fertile one with the help of space technology and remote-sensing techniques;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of increase in agricultural production registered so far with the help of the above techniques alongwith the details of future comprehensive schemes of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Satellite remote sensing techniques have been effectively utilised in mapping and monitoring land and water resources in an integrated manner to enable conversion of barren land into fertile one and to maximise agricultural production, as detailed below:

— Mapping of several types of wasteland and their spatial extent which could be reclaimed for agricultural purposes.

— Land use/cover mapping for various agroclimatic zones of the country including identification of barren land thus providing inputs for evolving strategies for increasing the cropping intensity and crop planning.

— Soil resources mapping including land capability assessment indicating soil constraints (salinity/alkalinity, waterlogging, etc.) for improved soil management.

— Mapping of ground water potential zones, surface water bodies and acquaculture potential zones for agriculture and allied activities.

— Mapping and monitoring of irrgiation command areas to provide inputs for better water management.

— Mapping and monitoring of snow covered areas for predicting runoff into major reservoirs for enabling optimum reservoir operations.

— Monitoring of agricultural drought, floods, crop pests and diseases for better management of agricultural hazards.

— Pre-harvest crop acreage and production assessment for taking appropriate decisions on import/ex-

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port and distribution of agricultural commodities.

— Locale-specific action plans for in-situ conservation of soil and moisture, rain water harvesting and for overall improvement of agricultural productivity on a sustainable basis.

— Providing satellite-based meteorological data for use in agrometeorological planning.

Besides, television channel on Indian National Satellite (INSAT) is being used for providing education to farmers on improved agricultural practices.

(c) As can be seen from the details given above, space technology and remote sensing techniques provide valuable inputs for taking necessary action towards increasing agricultural production. However, it is difficult to quantify the extent of increase in agricultural production due to these inputs alone. As regards future schemes, it is proposed to continue providing services in the area of agriculture using INSAT and Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) series of satellites with enhanced capabilities.

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts(1993-94) of the Central Electronics Limited, new Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Twentieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Electronic Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

II. Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT-768395]

Notifications of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Department of Company Affairs), Notification G.S.R. No. 283 (E), dated the 21st March, 1995, publishing the Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Amendment) Rules, 1995, under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the follwing Notifications of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Department of Company Affairs), under sub-section (3) of section 637 of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) G.S.R. No. 281(E), dated the 21st March, 1995, amending the Notification G.S.R. No. 507(E), dated the 24th, June, 1985.

(2) G.S.R. No. 282(E), dated the 21st March, 1995, amending the Notification G.S.R. No. 627(E), dated the 15th, May, 1978.

(3) G.S.R. No. 284(E), dated the 21st March, 1995, amending the Notification G.S.R. No. 288(E), dated the 31st, May, 1991.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT-768095]